

REPORT OF TENNESSEE BIRTHS 1998

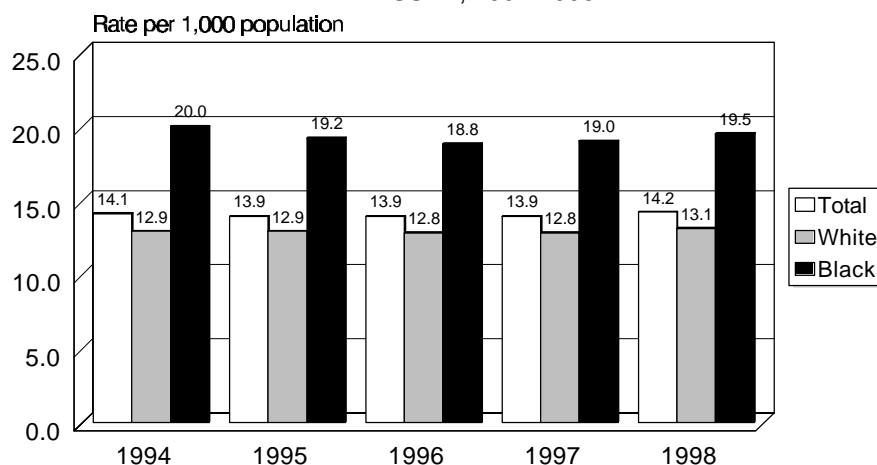
Introduction

March 2000

Report of Tennessee Births 1998 provides information on final birth data for state residents. Resident data includes events that occurred to residents of the state irrespective of where the events took place. Certificates filed with the Office of Vital Records supplied the data for this report.

In 1998, the total birth rate of 14.2 was the highest rate for the five-year period 1994-1998. The birth rate for whites remained fairly constant from 1994-1997 but increased to 13.1 in 1998. The black birth rate decreased from 1994 to 1996, but increased for 1997 and 1998. The 1998 rate of 19.5 was 2.6 percent higher than the 1997 rate of 19.0.

LIVE BIRTH RATES BY RACE, RESIDENT DATA
TENNESSEE, 1994-1998



Population estimates used to calculate rates were revised March 19, 1999. (SEE NOTE ON LAST PAGE)
Total includes births to other racial groups or race not stated.

In 1998, there were 77,334 total live births to Tennessee residents. Of the total, 59,150 or 76.5 percent were to whites and 16,862 or 21.8 percent were to blacks. There were 4,183 births to females ages 15-17, and 242 births were to females ages 10-14. There were 40 births to females 45 years and older.

NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE
AND RACE OF MOTHER
RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 1998

Age Groups	TOTAL	WHITE	BLACK
Total	77,334	59,150	16,862
10-14 years . . .	242	100	142
15-17 years . . .	4,183	2,533	1,607
18-19 years . . .	7,825	5,340	2,412
20-24 years . . .	22,584	16,623	5,687
25-34 years . . .	35,207	28,612	5,850
35-44 years . . .	7,022	5,695	1,146
45+ years	40	35	3

In 1998, the percent of total births with inadequate care was 4.7 and 1.4 percent had no care. Of the white births, 3.5 percent had inadequate care and 0.8 percent had no care. The percent of black births with inadequate care was 8.6, while 3.8 percent of the black births had no care.

NUMBER AND PERCENT OF BIRTHS BY ADEQUACY OF
PRENATAL CARE AND RACE OF MOTHER
RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 1998

	Total Number	Percent	White Number	Percent	Black Number	Percent
Total	77,334		59,150		16,862	
Adequate	57,810	74.8	46,724	79.0	10,127	60.1
Intermediate	14,799	19.1	9,903	16.7	4,633	27.5
Inadequate	3,613	4.7	2,078	3.5	1,456	8.6
No care	1,112	1.4	445	0.8	646	3.8

Percentages for care are derived from criteria defined in the Kessner Index, which classifies prenatal care on the basis of the number of prenatal visits, gestational age, and the trimester care began. In addition to the specific number of visits indicated for inadequate care, all women who started their care during the third trimester (28 weeks or later) were considered to have received inadequate care.

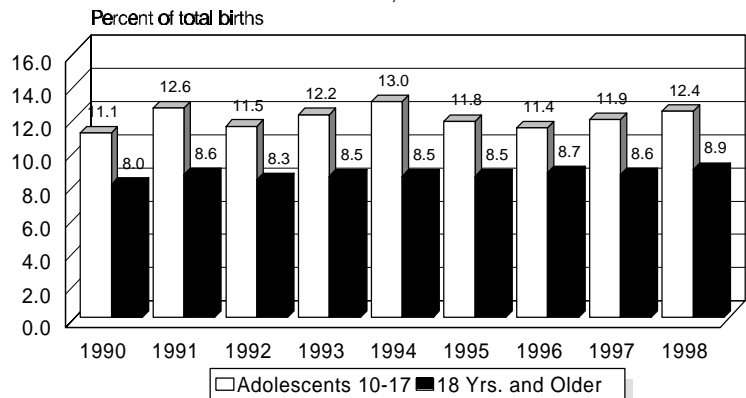
In 1998, there were 7,024 low birthweight (less than 2,500 grams) infants born to residents of Tennessee. A higher percentage of black infants were low birthweight (14.3) than white infants (7.6). Of the total births, 1,319 were very low birthweight (less than 1,500 grams) or 1.7 percent of the total.

NUMBER AND PERCENT OF BIRTHS BY WEIGHT
AND RACE OF MOTHER
RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 1998

	Total Number	Percent	White Number	Percent	Black Number	Percent
Total	77,334		59,150		16,862	
Under 2500 grams	7,024	9.1	4,483	7.6	2,416	14.3
1-1499	1,319	1.7	742	1.3	559	3.3
1500-2499	5,705	7.4	3,741	6.3	1,857	11.0
2500+ grams	70,291	90.9	54,654	92.4	14,444	85.7

Adolescents, ages 10-17, face a greater risk of having low-weight babies (less than 2,500 grams) than older mothers. In 1998, the percent of total adolescent births that were low-weight was 12.4. This was 39.3 percent higher than the percent of 8.9 for women ages 18 and older.

COMPARISON OF LOW BIRTHWEIGHT* FOR ADOLESCENTS (10-17)
AND MOTHERS 18 YEARS AND OLDER, RESIDENT DATA
TENNESSEE, 1990-1998



* A live birth weighing less than 2,500 grams.



Adolescent births (10-17) by race show the highest rates per 1,000 females for blacks. In 1998, the black adolescent birth rate of 29.1 was almost twice as high as the total adolescent birth rate of 15.0. The total birth rate for adolescents has declined since 1990 to a low of 15.0 in 1998, and the black rate also declined to a low of 29.1. The rate for whites remained fairly steady from 1992-1996, but dropped to a low of 11.4 in 1997 and 1998.

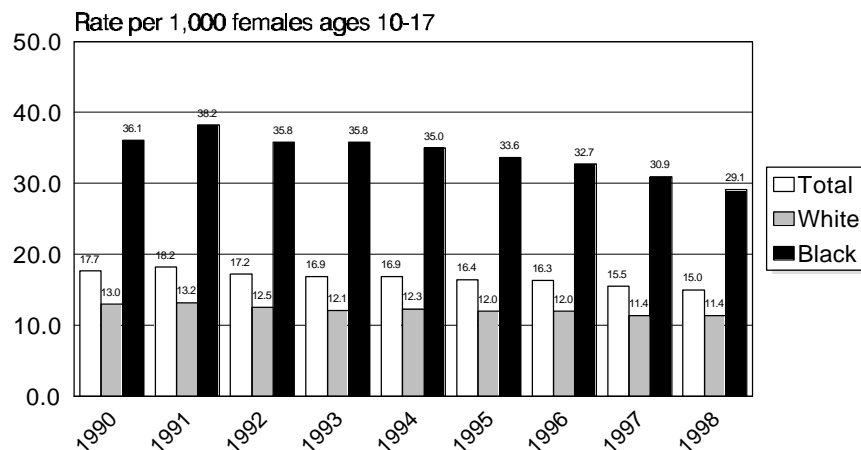


The percent of births to unmarried females by age shows the highest percentages were for females ages 10-14 and 15-17. In 1998, 99.3 percent of the black births to females ages 10-17 combined were to unmarried women, while 77.3 percent were to unmarried white females. The percentages decline as the age of mother increases.



The percent of births to unmarried women by race for 1990-1998 showed the highest rates for black women although white women had the greatest increase. The total percent of births to unmarried women increased 15.6 percent from 1990 to 1998. The percent for whites increased 37.7 percent, while the percent for blacks only increased 4.7 percent over the same period

ADOLESCENT BIRTH (10-17) RATES, BY RACE* RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 1990-1998

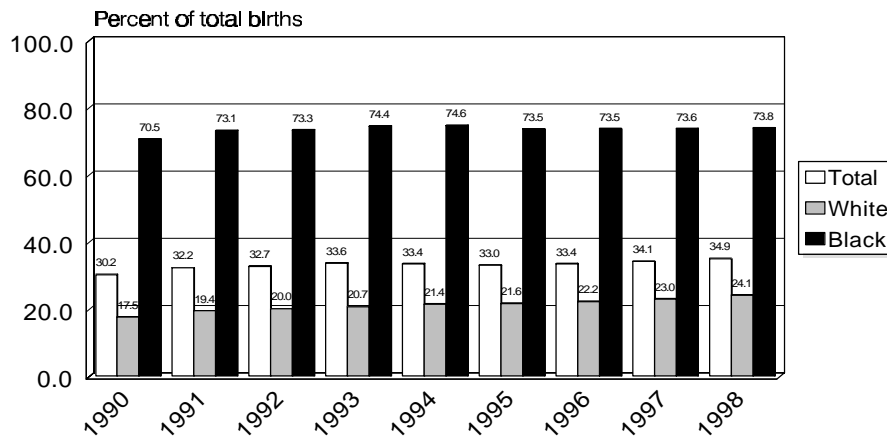


Total includes births to other racial groups or race not stated.
*Beginning in 1991, natality rates based on race of mother.

NUMBER OF BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED FEMALES BY AGE WITH PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL BIRTHS RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 1998

Age Groups	Total Number	Percent	White Number	Percent	Black Number	Percent
Total	26,979	34.9	14,243	24.1	12,445	73.8
10-14 years . . .	238	98.3	96	96.0	142	100.0
15-17 years . . .	3,567	85.3	1,939	76.5	1,595	99.3
18-19 years . . .	5,275	67.4	2,927	54.8	2,303	95.5
20-24 years . . .	10,043	44.5	5,255	31.6	4,683	82.3
25-34 years . . .	6,647	18.9	3,390	11.8	3,165	54.1
35-44 years . . .	1,135	16.2	574	10.1	545	47.6
45+ years . . .	4	10.0	3	8.6	1	33.3

PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED WOMEN, BY RACE* RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 1990-1998



Population estimates used to calculate rates were revised March 19, 1999. (SEE NOTE ON LAST PAGE)
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Please visit the **Health Statistics and Research** and **Health Information Tennessee (HIT)** pages at the **Programs and Services** site on the Tennessee Department of Health website:

<http://www.state.tn.us/health>

1998 Total Population 5,430,621	1998 White Population 4,504,472	1998 Black Population 866,097
1998 Total Female (10-17) Population 294,570	1998 White Female (10-17) Population 230,780	1998 Black Female (10-17) Population 60,033

NOTE: The population estimates for Tennessee used to calculate the rates in this report were based on estimates prepared from the 1990 census by the Department of Sociology at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. On March 19, 1999 population projections were revised by Health Statistics and Research. These revised projection figures were based on updated county total estimates released by the Bureau of the Census, and may result in rates that differ from those previously published.

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